

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

MEHMET SAYAL, ET AL.

Serial No.: 10/066,238

Filed: January 30, 2002

For: TRADING PARTNER CONVERSATION
MANAGEMENT METHOD AND SYSTEM

Group Art Unit: 3693

Examiner: Jocelyn Greimel

Conf. No.: 2777

DECLARATION OF ASSIGNEE

1. I am a Senior Attorney for Hewlett-Packard Company, supervising the preparation, filing and prosecution of patent applications for Hewlett-Packard Development Company, a subsidiary of Hewlett-Packard Company.

2. The standard procedure for preparing and filing patent applications at Hewlett-Packard is as follows. Upon receipt and approval of an invention disclosure, preparation of the patent application is assigned to outside counsel. Thereafter, outside counsel works with the inventors to prepare the patent application. Once approved by all of the inventors, the application is forwarded to the supervising attorney in Hewlett-Packard's internal legal department. That internal attorney reviews the draft patent application according to established guidelines and provides comments back to the outside counsel. After revising the draft application based on those comments, outside counsel may provide the revised draft to Hewlett-Packard's supervising attorney. Once Hewlett-Packard's supervising attorney has approved the


revised draft, outside counsel sends it to the inventors for any additional comments and/or changes they might have. Then, after receiving the inventors' final approval, outside counsel obtains their signatures on the Declaration and Assignment. Typically within a couple of days after that, the application is filed.

3. From the time that the supervising attorney receives the inventor-approved draft of the patent application until the application is actually filed can take several weeks, given the large number of patent applications that are filed by Hewlett-Packard. For the present application, this process likely would have occurred over the holidays during which, among other delays normally associated with the holiday season, Hewlett-Packard shuts down for at least one week. Therefore, I would expect that the timeframe would be toward the longer end of that range for the present application.

4. Eric Ho was the outside counsel who prepared and filed the above-referenced patent application, and Thomas Li was Hewlett-Packard's supervising attorney on the application. Eric Ho no longer does work for Hewlett-Packard, and Thomas Li is no longer employed by Hewlett-Packard.

I declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true. Executed on

01-07-08, at PALO ALTO, California.



Lloyd E. Dakin, Jr.